

GREENBELT News Review

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JANUARY 19, 2006

Plans for Schools in Greenbelt West Raise Concerns at Meeting

by Sandy Smith

The Greenbelt City Council dealt expeditiously with a number of purchases, petitions and plaques and then spent most of the January 9 meeting discussing plans for a combined elementary/middle school to replace the current Greenbelt Middle and Springhill Lake Elementary Schools. A presentation by Prince George's County school officials answered some questions but raised more and council decided to hold another worksession on the school plans.

Schools

Planned as a critical part of the Greenbelt Station development and revitalization of the Springhill Lake area of Greenbelt West, the conceptual plan for a combined elementary and middle school complex on the site of the current Greenbelt Middle School came in for some tough criticism from Greenbelt City Councilmembers and citizens attending the council meeting. They directed their comments to Bob Kuntz, director of Planning and Architectural Services for the Prince George's County School System, and other school officials back for a second visit before council.

Some concerns dealt with the sheer size of the complex and the number of students who

would be attending. Alan Turnbull questioned the advisability of bringing that many students together, spanning elementary through middle school ages. However, there were also concerns that the combination school would not actually meet the needs of a growing student population. Councilmembers thought that the school would be inadequate for the school-age population projections based on the development and housing plans for Greenbelt Station. With more homes and apartments, there will be a need, several commented, for more classrooms than called for in this plan. There was also discussion of the land now occupied by Springhill Lake Elementary School. AIMCO, owner of Springhill Lake, plans to use the space for a pond surrounded by luxury apartments but several attending the meeting, including Ann Harris Davidson, spoke in favor of holding onto that site. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said he wanted to put the community's needs first.

This brought a quick response from School Board Member José Morales who said, "The school board does not give land away." Mayor Judith Davis summed up the situation by saying we know

more but not enough yet and that these questions deserve more and more public discussion. The city plans to hold another worksession involving all interested parties.

Purchases

Council unanimously passed a resolution to purchase information technology services for the Police Mobile Data Terminal program. At a cost of \$15,400, ARINC, a technology firm located in Annapolis, will complete and maintain the project.

Council also approved making repairs to the fiberglass panels over the indoor pool at the Aquatic and Fitness Center. This type of roof periodically needs resurfacing. The cost of repairs, including recoating of the panels and repairs on components of the retractable roof mechanism, will be \$34,260. Structures Unlimited, Inc., the manufacturer and installer of the current roof system, will do the work.

The \$15,000 purchase of a multi-purpose Bobcat received council approval.

Petitions/Requests

Joan Falcão, a resident of Boxwood, said she and many of her neighbors are concerned about annexation associated with

See **COUNCIL**, page 5

Annexation Finalized

The annexation of the State of Maryland 75-acre parcel of wetlands north of Greenbelt Road was finalized on Thursday, January 12. No petitions were received by that deadline. This parcel will become a city-owned portion of the Metroland development and will be retained as wetlands.

Annexation on City Agenda

by James Giese

At a January 18 worksession members of the Greenbelt City Council expressed support for an annexation agreement for the South Core of Greenbelt Station which is to be formally considered at the council's January 23 meeting this coming Monday if Greenbelt Station owners agree to certain conditions imposed by the city. In the proposed agreement are provisions for the city to assist in financing the construction of the north-south connector road through Greenbelt Station at a total road cost of \$8.4 million.

The costs are to be financed by means of tax incremental financing. In such a process, up to 50 percent of increased city property tax revenues generated by the Greenbelt Station development will be allocated toward repayment of the bonded debt incurred. The financing will not pledge the full faith and credit of the city, according to Celia Craze. Any tax resources generated from other sections of the city would not be obligated toward repayment of this debt. Nor would the proposed debt impact upon the city charter limits for the issuance of debt.

Over Greenbelt Station representative objections, council sup-

ported a recommendation of its bond counsel and staff that the city also reserve the right to levy additional taxes upon Greenbelt Station as a special taxing district to assure that financial obligations are met, although all agreed that this contingency should not be necessary.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts objected to the city agreeing to the financing provisions. He contended that the 50 percent of added revenues allocated toward paying for the financing of road improvements should be used for other city costs for needed services that will be incurred as the result of annexation.

The city provided revenue information about the expected cost of city services to the annexed area. When fully developed, the cost of those services would be a little more than half the revenues expected from that development.

While developer representatives expressed optimism that final agreement language could be tweaked to mutual satisfaction, it is still possible for either the council or Greenbelt Station not to approve the annexation, in which case the annexation could either be delayed or fall through.

Museum Lecture Will Explore Innovative Children's Books

by Jill St. John, Curator

On January 24 at 7:30 p.m. the Greenbelt Museum will host a free lecture, "How Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel Built Greenbelt," to take place in the Greenbelt Community Center Multi-purpose room. The presentation will be given by Owen Lourie, a recent graduate in American Studies from Kenyon College, Ohio. Lourie, who graduated cum laude with departmental honors, is a native Washingtonian currently employed as research archivist at the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis.

Lourie's lecture will focus on the years between World Wars I and II. This period saw publication of a number of innovative books for children, many written by authors inspired by the philosophies of progressive educational theorists like John Dewey

and the Bank Street College of Education in New York City. Both Bank Street and Dewey became America's leading proponents of progressive education for children.

These progressive educators took a revolutionary approach to teaching children by studying the way they interacted with their surroundings and then using this information to develop strategies for teaching and learning.

The children's books Lourie will discuss are classic children's literature today. They include the ever popular "Good Night Moon" and "Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel." At the time of their publication they were revolutionary.

Typically children's books up

See **MUSEUM**, page 5

How I Came Here to Greenbelt To Become Its City Manager

by James Giese

With this story, the News Review resumes its series of occasional articles about members of its staff.

My journey to Greenbelt in December 1962 to become its fourth city manager actually began around 1951 in Beloit, Wisc., while I was a student at Beloit College. There in a government class I first learned about city management since Milwaukee, where I was born and raised, had only a mayor and board of aldermen.

The council-manager plan of city government appealed to me. The result of a reform movement, the plan called for a small elected council to set public policy and to employ, at its pleasure, a professionally trained person to run the day-to-day affairs of the city. Being interested in government but not in being a politician, I thought that becoming a city manager might be something I would like as a career.

I also liked the idea of working for a smaller entity than the federal government. So when Professor Harry Davis told my

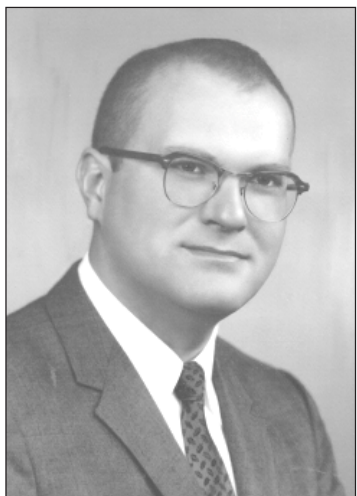


PHOTO BY HINCHCLIFFE STUDIOS

James Giese's application photograph in 1962. At that time a photo was always required so that prospective employers could make certain that you were the "right" kind of person. Also, before starting work you had to sign a Loyalty Oath declaring your loyalty to this country and that you were not a Communist. Nowadays neither is required.

class that the University of Kansas (KU) had begun a new graduate program to train city

managers, I took note.

I graduated from Beloit, however, without plans for my future. Awaiting me was the draft and two years of military service. I never really left basic training at Camp Gordon, Ga. After my training was completed, I remained there in its personnel section. There the first of several fortuitous circumstances led me to Greenbelt.

KUCIMAT

One of the people working in personnel was Walt Brown. Before being drafted, Walt had completed his first year at KU in the City Management Training Program (KUCIMAT). He told me all about it. The first year consisted of classes on campus plus field trips to nearby cities. During the second year students interned in cities with managers, returning to campus every six weeks for three-day seminars. He also told me who to contact to apply for admission. Immediately I applied to KU, was accepted, discharged from the Army and began classes in Sep-

See **GIESE**, page 6

Letters to the Editor

Encouraging Development?

I am surprised that the City of Greenbelt has become so proactive in encouraging development! The city council seems poised to sign an agreement giving away \$8.4 million of tax revenues to the developers of Greenbelt Station. This money will be used to build a north-south connector road through the development. The city will take out a \$10 million bond to pay for the road construction and interest payments on the bond.

Greenbelt has never done this before for a developer, according to Councilmember Rodney Roberts in the January 9 regular meeting. A \$10 million bond represents almost half of Greenbelt’s annual budget and would probably raise taxes yet again.

I think the citizens of Greenbelt should have a say in whether their real estate taxes are spent for this purpose. I think our elected officials should hold a referendum before any commitments are made.

Joan Falcão

Editor’s Note: The News Review requested that the city respond to the issues raised in this letter. That response appears below.

City’s Response

As to financing a north-south connector road, it is not uncommon for public financing to be part of large-scale development proposals. This is not a first for the city. When Greenway Center and Maryland Trade Center were built, city financing was used to build a portion of Hanover Parkway and all of Greenway Center Drive and Hanover Drive. In exchange, those areas were annexed to Greenbelt. City financing also helped build Ora Glen Drive at Hanover Parkway.

The financing package under consideration for Greenbelt Station (nothing having yet been approved) will not impact existing residents of Greenbelt. If approved, it will be paid from a portion of the taxes generated by the increased value of the Greenbelt Station area as it develops. This does mean the city will receive less revenue for city services but without this financial assistance the project may not happen. Further, the revenue the city receives will exceed the cost of any services provided.

The city holds referendums when it will incur debt to be paid from the city’s General Fund and paid for by all city taxpayers. It has not conducted referendums when the debt is to be repaid by a specific party or project, commonly referred to as a special assessment, such as the Greenbelt Station proposal.

Michael P. McLaughlin,
City Manager

THANKS

On behalf of GHI’s Companion Animal Committee, we would like to thank our wonderful Greenbelt community for supporting our efforts to supply the Prince George’s Animal Management Division with much needed bedding for the dogs and cats at the shelter. We took four loads of blankets, towels, comforters, quilts, animal beds, rugs and other materials.

Thanks to the outpouring of donations, the shelter is once

again fully stocked. (Food and toys were also donated and were appreciated by the staff – and certainly the animals.) No matter what the fate of the animals, at least we have contributed to making them as comfortable as possible.

Please remember the kindest thing we can do to prevent healthy, adoptable animals from being humanely killed is to spay and neuter (the Prince George’s SPCA offers low cost spay and neuter. They can be reached at 301-324-0807 or www.pgspca.org). And if you or someone you know are looking for a companion animal, please check out the shelter’s list of available animals at the county’s website.

Thanks again to all who participated for making this project so successful!

Cam MacQueen,
GHI Companion Animal
Committee Member

Stay Warm and Cozy

During the winter I found an easy way to keep my home warmer when the sun shines, which is usually on the coldest days. My windows face the sun for a couple of hours and by opening the curtains my entire home is warmed, saving heating costs.

At night I use insulated curtains, putting up pressure rods in autumn for the curtains. This winter when I pressed the curtains and rods into place on a very cold evening I needed to take off my warmest sweater and drop the thermostat setting. The effect was that dramatic! Test this idea with large towels or blankets to feel if your home becomes cozier.

This project is less expensive if you look for curtains on sale and at resale stores. Of course in summer I can replace these curtains with café curtains on the same rod except where the insulated curtains keep the sun’s heat out.

Mary Ernsberger

Set Aside Land Now For New Schools

Top grades go to the city council in last Monday’s spirited exchange with the Prince George’s County School system! The council clearly articulated the need to set aside land for building new schools. This exchange occurred during the review of the concept plans for Greenbelt Middle School at the city’s January 9 regular council meeting.

It became clear that the proposed facility, combining both elementary and middle schools, would be inadequate to accommodate the student populations associated with the Springhill Lake redevelopment and the new Greenbelt Station development.

School system representatives wanted to postpone dealing with this problem. But council members held firm, saying that plans must be made now, rather than risk waiting until after currently-available sites had been developed. Councilmembers also expressed a preference for elementary schools located within the new neighborhoods, rather than next to Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Road.

Joan Falcão

Need an Effective Plan for Schools

At the last city council meeting on January 9, concept plans were presented for the replacement of Springhill Lake Elementary School and Greenbelt Middle School. These plans are part of the redevelopment of the entire Springhill Lake apartment complex by its owners, AIMCO.

We are very concerned about the fragmented and inadequate planning. These schools are very important to the future of Greenbelt and its residents.

The number of projected housing units in Greenbelt is huge! The number of units in Springhill Lake (SHL) alone is projected to almost double from 2,800 to well over 5,000. And there are a large number of new housing units being proposed for the tracts near the Metro station, in nearby College Park and even at Beltway Plaza.

The proposed replacements for the elementary and middle schools can’t be expected to handle all of the students from these housing units. And if the middle school capacity is filled by SHL students, where do the students from the rest of Greenbelt and nearby areas go? The planning process for the SHL schools must include, at a minimum, acquisition of sites for additional new schools.

We must not build too-large schools simply to accommodate these enrollments. Their capacities should be capped, with some growth projection. We need schools of moderate size that are easier to manage and that support comfortable learning environments for the students, families and faculty.

The concept plans for the combined elementary and middle school dealt only with the current middle school property (35 acres) and bus lot (8 acres). However, at the council meeting, there was no mention of the disposition of the current SHL elementary school property (10 acres). Perhaps some property trades would be useful.

The concept plans proposed to plant new trees to replace the mature trees that would be removed. We need to preserve open spaces and mature trees. We need school grounds that serve as learning models of good environmental practices.

We are concerned that all stakeholders have not been brought into the planning process. For example, the current principals of SHL Elementary School and of Greenbelt Middle School have not yet been asked to participate in the planning of their replacement schools.

We urge the city council to bring all the parties together to develop and adopt effective plans that resolve the above problems and result in building schools that serve the needs of our children and community.

The quality of our schools affects all citizens of Greenbelt. Proper long-term thinking to ensure high quality public education in Greenbelt will raise our standard of living as well as property values. All of our children deserve to live and learn in a community with excellent schools and strong neighborhoods. After all, we are Greenbelt!

David Lange, Beth Novick,
Alan Turnbull, Jeff Morissette,
volunteer, teacher and parents
at Greenbelt Elementary School

Grin Belt



"Downloading the enviornmental impact study is like constructing the ICC . . . it creates a lot of traffic!"

On Screen

A Looming Mountain

The much-ballyhooed “Brokeback Mountain” shows at Old Greenbelt Theatre from Friday, January 20 into February. This week it won Hollywood Golden Globes for best dramatic film, direction (Ang Lee), screenplay (Larry McMurtry/Diana Ossana) and song (“A Love That Will Never Grow Old”), which keys the struggle between two rugged family men thrown together as young cowboys. Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal play the closed-mouthed leads whose wives – acted by Michelle Williams and Anne Hathaway – and children have to deal with the men’s wrenching pull for one another. The pace is studied, the pressures intense; says one cowboy to the other, “If you can’t fix it, Jack, you gotta stand it.” R rated, 134 minutes.

– Eli Flam

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Pat Davis.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before participants are planning to eat to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2008, ext. 4125 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for Monday through Friday, January 23 through 27 include:

Monday – Cream of broccoli soup with crackers, BBQ chicken, mixed greens, mashed potatoes, purple plums.

Tuesday – Orange juice, six meatballs, spaghetti with tomato sauce, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail.

Wednesday – Orange juice, ham steak with fruit sauce, black-eyed peas, broccoli florets, baked apple.

Thursday – Cranberry juice, chicken enchilada with cheese sauce, Mexican rice, green beans, lemon parfait.

Friday – Cranapple juice, chili con carne, fluffy white rice, mixed greens, sweet cherries.

ACE Contest Deadline Near

The deadline for the ACE Reading Club Youth Writing Contest is fast approaching. All entries must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 3. Entries should be sent to ACE Reading Club, Greenbelt CARES, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

This contest is open to students in grades six through 12 who live in or attend school in Greenbelt. The contest has two categories: poetry and short fiction. This year’s theme is “Adversity and Crisis.” For example, this could include personal, global, economic, physical, national or environmental crises. Students may enter up to two entries in each category. A panel of judges will review entries and select the winners. Entries will be judged on the following: originality, creativity, cleverness, artistic quality/writing skill and theme.

Students will read winning entries at the Greenbelt Youth Literary Showcase on April 21. Cash prizes will be awarded. For complete rules and entry forms see the ACE Reading Club website at www.greenbeltnmd.gov/ace, call 301-345-6660 or email lmurray@greenbeltnmd.gov.



FREE Pizza Night

January 26th 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
6th-12th graders
Greenbelt Youth Center

Free Pizza and Games!!!
Drop in & join the fun.

SOUL'D OUT Youth Group
More info call John or Jody
(301)574-2488

Astronomical Society Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will host a star party this Saturday, January 21 at Northway Fields. Members of the society will begin setting up to view a variety of celestial objects at approximately 5 p.m. In the event of rain or hopelessly cloudy skies the event will be canceled without further notice. Information about other ASG events can be found at <http://www.greenbeltastro.org/events.shtml>.

Astronomical Society Monthly Meeting

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, January 26 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Howard B. Owens Science Center on Greenbelt Road. The public is invited to attend.

Information about this meeting and other events can be found on the society website at <http://www.greenbeltastro.org/events.shtml>.

Online Community Gallery Seeks Photos

The latest renovation of the online Community Gallery at <http://greenbelt.com/gal/> is near completion but the webmaster is always looking for more community photos. Right now, they particularly seek shots of Festival of Lights activities and Greenbelt New Year events at the Community Center, Youth Center and Roosevelt Center.

Contact Neil McLeod in advance at 301-419-8044 or at webman@greenbelt.com to determine the best way to submit images – email is generally not a good way to transfer large files.

If possible, captions or other photographer’s notes for submitted shots are needed, which give them more value to the community. Contact McLeod for details.

First-time visitors to the online Community Gallery may enjoy the “Walking Tour” that winds the viewer through all the “rooms.” For those who are already familiar with the Gallery, click on “What’s New?” to view the latest additions.



Greenbelt Lions Club Holds Blood Drive

Doctors Hospital and the Greenbelt Lions Club in partnership with the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Friday, January 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the hospital’s campus at 8118 Good Luck Road, DSE Room, 5th Floor, Medical Office Building. To schedule a time for a donation, call 301-552-8060.

With the lifespan of blood cells as little as five days for platelets and 42 days for red cells, the American Red Cross depends on healthy members of the community to give blood. Over 1,300 blood donations are needed daily to supply the needs of patients in this community. Each blood donation can be separated into components and may help three or more sick or injured people.

To be eligible to donate blood a person must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. Donors can safely give blood every 56 days. Bring some form of positive identification such as a driver’s license, blood donor card or work or school ID photo.

It only takes 20 minutes to donate; it is a simple, safe, life-saving and selfless gift that millions of Americans can give. Call 301-552-8060 to make an appointment.

K of C Will Hold Free Throw Contest

The St. Hugh’s Knights of Columbus’ Free Throw Contest will be held January 28, 3 to 4 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Boys and girls 10 to 14 years old may participate.

Everybody needs to practice free throws! Rules and entry forms may be obtained from Joe Griffith at 301-345-0166 or griffithfamily4@verizon.net.

Dunlop Explores Parkinson’s Disease

On January 27 Explorations Unlimited will present a lecture by Rebecca Dunlop on Parkinson’s Disease. Dunlop is nurse coordinator for the Johns Hopkins Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorder Center.

Parkinson’s Disease is more than just “that tremor disorder” or an “old age affliction.” It is a complex neurological disorder that costs the U.S. more than 6 billion dollars annually. Dunlop will present “Parkinson’s Disease 101: An Introduction.” This is an interactive program that will provide the basics about what Parkinson’s disease is and the therapies currently used to treat it.

The Johns Hopkins Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorder Center is a National Parkinson Foundation Center of Excellence and a Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Disease Research Center of Excellence. Dunlop, an R.N. and B.S.N., organizes and develops educational programs for patients and their families, facilitates support groups, identifies and refers individuals and their families to appropriate community resources and assists the movement disorders physicians with clinical research.

Dunlop has 24 years of experience as a registered nurse and has spent the majority of her career working with individuals with chronic illness. Eight of those years were devoted to the care of individuals with Parkinson’s and other movement disorders. A member of the movement disorder team, she provides individuals and their families with knowledge and tools necessary to manage these illnesses and improve their quality of life.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center in the Senior Classroom. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for details.

Mishkan Torah Social Action Offers Debate

On Sunday, January 22 at 11 a.m. the Social Action Committee of Mishkan Torah has scheduled a debate on the subject, “Do Military Recruiters Mislead Potential Recruits?” J.C. McNiel will present information on the topic. Members of the military recruiting offices have been invited to speak in response, but as of Tuesday, January 17, no recruitment representative has been identified.

Mishkan Torah’s Rabbi Jonathan Cohen will also speak on the subject of the Judaic perspective of conscientious objector status. There is no charge for admission.

At the Library

Children

Tuesday, January 24, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, January 25, 10:30 a.m. – Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, January 26, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Adults

Saturday, January 21, 1:30 p.m. – The Unified Jazz Ensemble presents “Learning about Jazz” which celebrates the birth and development of jazz through different eras: dixieland, swing, bebop and modern.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE
WEEK OF JAN. 20
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R)
No frequent movie goers coupons or passes.

Friday
*4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Saturday
*1:45, *4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Sunday
*1:45, *4:40, 7:30

Monday – Thursday
*4:40, 7:30
*These shows at \$5.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

LOVE NOTES

Place your ad for Valentine's Day in the Feb. 9 issue.
See ad on page 10 for the details.

Greenbelt Arts Center

AUDITIONS
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
by William Shakespeare
January 30 & 31, 7:30-9:30 PM
Performs April 28-May 20
Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Next to the Post Office.
301-441-8770
www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Greenbelt American Legion Auxiliary Unit #136
SHRIMP FEAST!
Friday, Jan 27 2006 *6 p.m. – 9 p.m.*
Spiced Shrimp, Roast Beef, Beer, Soda and **MORE!**
Tickets:
\$18 Per Person (Advanced Ticket Sales)
\$20 Per Person (At The Door)

Call (301) 345-0136 for Tickets **Today!**
The American Legion, 6900 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt (301) 345-0136

St. Hugh’s Catholic School Grades K-8th
OPEN HOUSE Tuesday, January 31
9 to 11 a.m.
145 Crescent Road, Greenbelt
301-474-4071
www.sthughs.com
Open Registration begins Feb. 21 for the 2006-07 school year.

Obituaries

Michael F. Kadziel

Michael F. Kadziel, of Research Road, died suddenly following emergency surgery at Laurel Regional Hospital on Sunday, January 15, 2006. He was 80 years old.

During the Korean War Mr. Kadziel served in the Army Air Corps with the Air Weather Service. After his service he worked locally in the private sector as an electrical engineer. He enjoyed living in Greenbelt and especially enjoyed taking his grandchildren to the lake to feed the ducks.

He is survived by wife Marjorie; five children: Margaret Kadziel and husband Doug Rowe of Denver, Colo.; Mary Williford of Laurel; Michelle Kadziel-Uber and husband Tim Uber of Riverdale; Melody Wendel and husband Michael Wendel of Glen Mills, Pa.; and Mitchel Kadziel, also of Greenbelt; and three grandsons, Ian and Kyle Williford and Chase Uber.

Visitation will be held at Gasch's Funeral Home, 4739 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville on Thursday, January 19, 2006, from 7 to 9 p.m., with a blessing and prayers given at 8 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church, Newark, N.J., with interment to follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Manville N.J.



Former Greenbelter Lauren Kemp Making Marks In Hershey, Pa.

by Mark Opsasnick

Lauren Kemp was born in Plantation, Fla., and moved to Greenbelt at the age of four in 1992. Her mother Deborah, a Greenbelt native who had been away from the area for many years, purchased a home in the 23 Court of Ridge Road. Lauren attended St. Hugh's School from kindergarten through the first two weeks of her seventh grade year. The Kems then decided to pursue new opportunities in the Keystone State and moved to Hershey, Pa., during the second week of September 2000. While Lauren sadly bid farewell to her many wonderful Greenbelt friends, she looked forward to the new life that awaited her beyond the Susquehanna River.

Lauren completed her seventh and eighth grade years at Hershey Middle School, during which time she cultivated an interest in writing and took on roles as reporter for the school's newsletter and editor of the school's newspaper. In the fall of 2002 she entered highly regarded Hershey High School as a freshman and went on to compile an impressive resume of academic and extracurricular achievements.

During her time at Hershey High, Lauren has been named to the Distinguished Honor Roll every year and has been extremely active in a wide range of clubs and organizations. She is currently co-editor-in-chief of both "The Broadcaster," the student newspaper and "Nexus," the school's literary magazine. She is also president of the Culture Club (an organization dedicated to international studies that she founded during her junior year), vice president of the Spanish Club and secretary of Students against Destructive Decisions. In addition, Lauren handles the



school's daily television announcements, an on-camera duty she has filled for all four of her high school years.

Because of her love of writing and fascination with the dynamics of creative communication, Lauren hopes to one day become an author and work as a journalist and screenwriter. "I really

enjoy journalism but when I write I mainly like to do entertainment articles and editorials," she said. "I also like fiction and creative writing because those styles don't have to necessarily follow a particular formula. I like to develop my own concepts and I have already written an original pilot episode for a television show which I am going to submit to some major entertainment companies. I have all these ideas for novels and movie screenplays and I'm currently spending a lot of time developing my portfolio."

Not surprisingly, Lauren has been recognized on many occasions for her literary talents. One of her most impressive accomplishments was the essay she composed on Violet Oakley, an early twentieth century artist and feminist from Philadelphia who was best known for the beautiful murals she painted for the Governor's Reception Room in the Capitol Building of Harrisburg. Lauren's essay so impressed the members of the Pennsylvania Commission of Women, they invited her to recite her work at their Women's History Month Celebration, an event that was held in the Capitol Rotunda in Harrisburg on March 2, 2005.

More recently, Lauren was named Hershey High School's "Student of the Month" for December 2005 by the Hershey Women's Club and was just

See KEMP, page 5

Buddhist Group Meets Every Friday

The Buddhist Meditation and Discussion Group meets every Friday evening at 7 p.m. The group will practice and reflect on teachings of Thich Nhat Hanh for several sessions. Call 301-441-3214 for location and more information. The group met throughout 2005 and enjoys welcoming visitors.



Our sympathy to Marjorie Kadziel of Research Road and her family on the death of her husband Michael F. Kadziel. Congratulations to Kant Klingenstein of Eleanor Roosevelt High School who was nominated by Congressman Steny Hoyer to a full service nomination to the U.S. Naval Academy.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm
Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am
Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday 8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service
Sunday School/
Bible Study
Worship Service
Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)
Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org
Sundays: 8:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 1:30 pm
Wednesdays: 7:00 pm
Simple, quiet Mass
Christian education for all ages
Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Simple, quiet Mass
An inclusive congregation!

Museum Hosts Science Show
Back by popular demand, John Hadfield's Science Show returns to College Park Aviation Museum on Saturday, January 28 with shows at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Hadfield, a clown college graduate, uses music, comedy and magic to entertain and educate his audience about the wonders of science in this fun, interactive show that delights children of all ages.
There is a fee. Museum admission is included in ticket price. An adult must accompany all children. The museum is located at 1987 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park.
For more information call 301-864-6029, TTY 301-864-4765.

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

Congregation Mishkan Torah
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.
Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

What is Islam?
Who is Allah?
"Allah" is the Arabic word for "God." The same God that Moses in Hebrew called "Alaha" and Jesus in Aramaic called "Aloha." The Arabic translation of the bible used the word "Allah" for God, The Father in heaven. In the Qur'an He describes Himself this way. "Say: He is God, the One and Only. God the Eternal, Absolute. He begetteth not, nor is He begotten. And there is none like unto Him."
—The Holy Quran 112:1-4
To find out more about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at muslimguide@mail.com or visit the website www.islam-guide.com.

Baha'i Faith
"O Friend!
In the garden of thy heart,
plant naught but the rose of love."
—Baha'u'llah
Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

COUNCIL continued from page 1

the development of Greenbelt Station. In particular, she objected to the use of city money to fund a road for the benefit of the developer. Davis responded that the city had questions too and that the issue would be on the agenda at an upcoming council meeting.

Bill Cornett, who has just moved back into the city, asked council to look into boating regulations which require all children under 12 to be accompanied by an adult while boating on Greenbelt Lake. He said this poses a problem for younger children who use a kayak – a single person boat. Council agreed to refer his request to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and to the Police Department, which enforces rules at the lake.

Presentations
A plaque was presented to Greenbelt from the National League of Cities honoring Greenbelt’s active participation in the league for 25 years. During this time members of the Greenbelt City Council have served on various boards and committees, including this year when Councilmember Edward Putens is chair of the Small Cities Council and Davis is a member of the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

Derek Thompson, a 25-year resident of Windsor Green, is a member of the newly formed State Task Force on Common Ownership Communities. He is the only representative from Prince George’s County on this task force, which was established

to undertake review of a number of issues of mutual concern to condominiums, cooperatives and home owners’ associations.

With seven homeowners’ associations, seven condos and one of the largest cooperatives in the nation, Greenbelt is especially interested in this activity, Davis said. Councilmember Leta Mach thought it was a unique opportunity to represent cooperatives, which are not always well understood, she said. Thompson said he will be interested in hearing from citizens in Greenbelt since the task force agenda is not yet set and there is time to provide input.

The Greenbelt Recreation Department received a check from the Lions Club for new folding tables. The club president, who presented the check, stated that the Lions Club is an all-volunteer activity formed 53 years ago with an admirable record of community service, including many vision health programs. The club makes periodic donations to the city for various projects.

Other Business
Council approved the demolition of the Jaycees’ clubhouse, previously used for community projects including storage of the Greenbelt Arts Center theater sets and props. Unused for a number of years, it has deteriorated badly. Council approved submission of a proposal to the Municipal Livable Communities Initiative grant program.

MUSEUM continued from page 1

to that point had focused on the mythical and the fantastic or they were lessons in morality and unrelated to the lives of real children. These new progressive authors created children’s books that dealt with the lives of kids and their experiences, not tales about fairies.

Not only did these progressive educational concepts inspire the authors but their progressive vision of cooperative democracy was realized in the construction of “green cities,” such as Greenbelt, where schools adopted the principles of education for democracy.

Students attending Greenbelt Center Elementary School, for instance, learned about their environment by building nature trails or experienced music through dance and not just by listening passively. Lourie will draw connections between progressive educators and authors and how these ideas were embraced by the creators of Greenbelt.

Library Presents Jazz Ensemble

Unified Jazz Ensemble will present “Learning about Jazz” on Saturday, January 21 at 1:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Library, lower level meeting hall. Admission is free.

The Unified Jazz Ensemble is an energetic trio performing classic and original jazz. “Learning about Jazz” celebrates the birth and development of jazz through different eras: dixieland, swing, bebop and modern, focusing on contributors such as Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin.

The ensemble draws correlations between rhythm, math, music and memory and includes a hands-on exploration of jazz instruments. Mike Noonan (trombone and vibraphone), Marty Morrison (drums) and John Pineda (bass) have five recordings to their credit.

For information contact the museum office, 301-507-6582 or museum@greenbeltmd.gov.

KEMP continued from page 4

named a recipient of the school’s “Class of 2006 Four Best Writers Award.”


One of Lauren’s favorite pastimes is to conduct research on Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. She was a “Disney baby,” having first visited the wondrous theme park while she was still residing in the Sunshine State at the age of two. Since leaving Florida she has made more than a dozen separate trips back to visit the world-famous amusement complex and enjoys vacationing there more than ever. When she was younger Lauren dreamed of one day serving as CEO for Walt Disney World and would still like to contribute to the company

in some fashion. She explains, “I’m very interested in the administrative aspects of Disney World and I have a number of entertainment proposals that I’d like to present to them one day. I also hope to offer my screenplays to Miramax and Touchstone Pictures and the other Disney movie companies and maybe some day hold a position where I would have a say in the company’s operation and enhance their creative output.”

Lauren will graduate from Hershey High School this coming June and will attend the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia next fall where she will major in English and minor in international studies.

While her future is bright, she often reflects on her past and fondly reminisces about life in Greenbelt. “I’m glad I was in Greenbelt when I was younger,” she stated. “We lived near the Roosevelt Center. I loved the lake and I liked my teachers at St. Hugh’s because they were all so nice and helpful. I really loved Creative Kids Camp – the performing arts summer day camp – and the performances that were staged in the Community Center. I miss my childhood years there because Greenbelt was really a great place to grow up.”

The author, maternal uncle of Lauren, lives on Rosewood Drive in Greenbelt.



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting-Municipal Building
January 23, 2006 - 8:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
Anacostia Sub-Watershed Group Expansion Award – Citizens Concerned for a Cleaner County

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

*** Committee Reports** (Items on the Consent Agenda marked by * will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)

- Advisory Planning Board, Report #06-01 (Greenbelt Station – Conceptual Site Plan)
- Arts Advisory Board/Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Joint Report #06-1 (Eligibility Criteria for Recognition/Contribution Groups)
- Park & Recreation Advisory Group, Report #06-2 (Recognition Group Application)

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Station – Conceptual Site Plan
- Greenbelt Station – South Core Annexation Agreement
- *Advisory Group Resignation
- *Advisory Group Appointments and Reappointments

MEETINGS


NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the:
Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee (Openings for adult & youth positions.)
For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

INVITATION TO BID

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland, invites sealed bids for furnishing the following:
BID 2006-1: 2 Ton Truck Chassis
This equipment is to be delivered to the Department of Public Works, 555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Interested bidders may pick up a bid specifications package for Bid 2006-1 at:
City of Greenbelt Finance Office
25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
Please call the Department of Public Works at (301) 474-8004 regarding bid submission questions. Bids must be **RECEIVED** no later than 2/6/06 at 10 a.m. Bids will be opened publicly at 10:10 a.m. on 2/6/06.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

**Saturday, January 28, 2006
9am-12noon
Public Works Yard**

City residents, businesses and organizations can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items. Bring your items to the collection bins located at Greenbelt Public Works, 555 Crescent Rd.


Accepted Items Include: central processing units, hard drives, monitors, keyboards, printers and copiers, laptop computers, computer speakers, scanners, surge protectors, video cards, wires and power cords, computer mice, software, recording equipment, cameras, telephones, radios, and other small electronic equipment

TELEVISIONS AND LARGE STEREO UNITS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

For further information, contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8308.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/ PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS:
301-474-8000
Monday, January 23 at 8pm:
City Council Meeting (live)
Tuesday & Thursday, January 24 & 26 at 6pm “Ask the Expert,”
7pm Greenbelt Labor Day Festival presents “Shoe Suede Blues and Peter Tork,”
8:30pm Replay of City Council.
PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581
Wednesday & Friday, January 25 & 27 at 7pm “Meeting Danielia Cotton,”
7:30pm “Alexander Kleztet.”



PRELIMINARY AGENDA

MEETING OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, January 26, 2006
7:30 p.m., GHI Board Room

Key Agenda Items:

- E-Z Pay Drawing
- Data on Additions in GHI
- Annual Meeting Plans
- Woodlands Committee Report

Regular board meetings are open to members.

GIESE continued from page 1

tember 1954.

My classes covered areas of city management expertise not covered in my undergraduate work. There was a special civil engineering course, for example, for would-be managers who were not engineers, about surveying, subdivision layout, sewerage and water treatment systems, street construction designs and refuse collection systems. I also had courses on municipal finance, personnel administration, problems of democracy, case studies in management, municipal law and human relations.

I interned at Kenosha, Wisc., as assistant to the finance director, where I put into operation a new machine-accounting book-keeping system while also doing special assignments for City Manager Dick Custer. I looked forward to returning to KU for the on-campus seminars.

There my fellow classmates and I shared our experiences – both in formal sessions with Professor Edwin O. Stene, who had successfully initiated this training program, and in Lawrence, Kan., hotel rooms where my class sat around in bull sessions with drinks in hand into the wee hours of the morning. The latter sessions were excellent training for getting the job in Greenbelt.

Western Springs

After staying at Kenosha a year beyond my internship, I became Village Manager Dick Brown’s assistant with special responsibility overseeing financial operations of the Village of Western Springs, a western suburb of Chicago. Brown gave me a great deal of responsibility, particularly in preparing and administering the village budget. Five years later, when he got a job as manager of San Fernando, I became acting manager of Western Springs.

After deliberation, the village board (council) offered me the job permanently but with the condition that the assistant manager position would be eliminated. There had been a power struggle over authority for financial affairs between Brown and a council-appointed city treasurer. With Brown gone, the latter got his way. I would not accept that condition, however, and the board, in its wisdom, chose to employ another person as its manager and eliminate my job. I was given three months’ notice.

However, it usually takes more than three months for a city to go through the hiring process for a new city manager. I turned down the one job offer I did receive

before becoming unemployed because I did not feel I would like living in that city’s area. Surprisingly, when I stated on my application that I was unemployed, I got my best responses. The job market was different then.

I went for job interviews in Oregon, California, Georgia, Connecticut and Maryland. But after I came to Greenbelt for an interview, that became the job I wanted. I held off two other job offers hoping to get the position here.

Interview

I remember little now about that interview. I drove here by way of Gettysburg and saw the battlefield. It was the end of October and the drive down the Baltimore-Washington Parkway with trees in full color was awesome. I remember that traffic hardly moved during rush hour on US 1 from Hyattsville to College Park where I stayed in a motel.

For the interview I dressed in a good suit, put on a top coat and wore my new hat. While I seldom wore hats and had never owned a fedora, I bought one to look my best for the interview. I don’t know if that helped me get the job or not. Greenbelt is not a dressy-hat place and, once employed, I stowed the hat until I gave it away.

I rendezvoused someplace with Tom Canning, a member of council and former mayor who looked something like and had a personality like Dwight Eisenhower. Canning escorted me to dinner at the Fireside Restaurant on Greenbelt Road, the best restaurant around at that time. (It was located where the State Employees Credit Union is now.)

We were joined by three other councilmembers, Mayor Francis White, Ben Goldfaden and Bill Phillips. I don’t remember anything that took place there except that it was a rather formal interview. I never got to see very much of the town.

Most of my knowledge about the city was garnered from pamphlets about the planned community that the council gave me. I know I liked the location, the people I met, the fact that it was a model planned community with a model council-manager city charter and that substantial additional growth was expected. The fact that it also had a lake appealed to me.

I returned home and heard nothing from Greenbelt. A time was reached when I had to say yes or no to another job offer so I called Mayor White and asked

when Greenbelt might make a decision and if I was in the running. He asked me to hold off a week as the council would make a decision shortly.

Short Notice

Late that week White called and told me that he and the fifth councilmember, Dave Champion, who I had not met, would come to Western Springs to interview my references. They would fly out Saturday night, meet my references on Sunday and return Sunday night. Would I meet them at the airport and make the necessary arrangements for the interviews?

My references were the village president (mayor), former village president and a boardmember. This was very short notice, and I was living in Milwaukee then. I called the new manager of Western Springs Bob Hegel who had been very supportive and he agreed to line up my references for Sunday appointments. Fortunately they were all agreeable to meeting the Greenbelt officials.

(Later I learned that Saturday night, December 10, 1962, was the big 25th anniversary dinner celebration at the armory for the Greenbelt News Review. White and Champion attended but left early, expressing their regrets. A police car took them to the airport to catch a plane to Chicago.)

I met White and Champion around 11 p.m. The first thing they did was ask to go to a bar to have a drink and talk. I found one somewhere near the airport but the bartender announced that the bar was closing. Local blue laws required bars to close at midnight on Saturdays.

White and Champion complained and asked if they could at least get a bottle to take with them. The bartender said that wasn’t legal. White announced that he was the Mayor of Greenbelt and he would appreciate being given the courtesy of getting a bottle to take with him. The bartender relented and we left for our motel with bottle in hand.

The motel was pretty basic. So we sat on the floor, glasses in hand, and drank and talked about city management, Greenbelt and me. This is where my training in hotel rooms at KU seminars did me well. Finally, well after three a.m., I told the two that they had appointments early in the morning and that I would have to drive them there but that I needed to get some sleep before then. Besides, the bottle was nearly empty.

The next morning I took the

two to the agreed meeting point for my references and returned to get them after the interviews were over. They asked me to take them to a good restaurant to have something to eat. (I don’t think they had had time for breakfast.) I took them to one just outside the village limits. However, before going to eat, they went straight to the bar and ordered up. It was then they offered me the job and we worked out the details. They insisted I come to work right away, and I agreed to be there a week later.

(Later Champion told me that I had been favored by the other councilmembers but that he had favored an applicant from Colorado. It had been agreed that if he and White were satisfied with me and my references, I would be offered the job. If not, they would fly on to Colorado to check out the other applicant.)

Greendale

During dinner the two started asking questions about Greenbelt’s sister city, Greendale, Wisc. Greendale is a southern suburb of Milwaukee, about 80 miles from Western Springs. They said they would like to go see it. Would I take them there?

White managed to get hold of Greendale’s City Manager John Kuglitsch on the telephone. Kuglitsch told them to come on up.

It was well into the evening by the time we arrived at Greendale. We found Kuglitsch’s home, one of the originals, and had a nice chat. Since it was dark, he offered to give us a tour of the city if we stayed over. I knew little about Greendale and would like to have taken the tour. But I was beat from the all-night session and had much to do before leaving to start work the next Sunday, so I regretfully declined.

White and Champion accepted Kuglitsch’s offer, however, and he arranged for the two to stay at a nearby motel and to take them to the airport after the morning tour. I left my future employers at the motel and headed home for a good long night’s sleep.

The following Friday I packed as many of my things as I could carry in my Valiant and headed to my new job as the fourth city manager of Greenbelt.

Greenbelt on Radio

Soundprints will feature Greenbelt in its 7:30 a.m. program on WAMU radio (85.5 FM) on Saturday, January 21 titled “The Public Green and the Poor.” The website www.soundprint.org gives the following summary of the program’s theme. “Numerous times in American History, reformers have sought to help the poor by putting them amidst nature – the belief being that physical beauty can make beautiful people. It seems like an odd idea. But Thomas Jefferson believed it fervently. And it’s also the reason Central Park exists in New York and the town of Greenbelt exists in Maryland. This program, from Producer Richard Paul, looks at a time in our past when nature was used to uplift the poor. It airs as part of our ongoing series ‘Tales from Urban Forests.’”

Resource links include the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 which led to the City Beautiful Movement; Greenbelt, Maryland, a social experiment; Richard Ely article on Pullman, Illinois, in 1885, another social experiment; Tales from Urban Forests – a special radio series. Book resources listed are “Greenbelt, Maryland” by Cathy Knepper and “Lewis Mumford and American Modernism: Utopian Theories for Architecture and Urban Planning.”

Open Auditions Held By Maryland Chorus

The world-renowned Maryland Chorus and Music Director Edward Maclary announce community member auditions on January 22, 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The spring season features Franz Schubert’s “Mass in A-flat Major” and the “Te Deum” by Franz Joseph Haydn (April 23). The spring concert takes place in the state-of-the-art DeKelbourn Concert Hall at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Auditions will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park campus. Call 301-405-5571 for more information.

LOVE NOTES
ARE COMING

Sunday Brunch

11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$12⁹⁵ Adult \$10⁹⁵ Sr. Citizen \$6⁹⁵ Age 7-12 Below age 6 FREE

New Lunch Hours 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Open Every Day for Lunch Including Saturday & Sunday
Featuring New Afternoon Specials

Open for Dinner 5-9 p.m.

Beer and Wine
Discounts Every Day!

Our Perfect Prime Rib and Famous “Endless” Salad Bar
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All Lunch & Dinner
Entrees For Everyone
In Your Party Including
The Luncheon Salad Bar

Coupon expires 1-31-06. Coupon not valid with any other coupon, special or Sunday Brunch. GNR

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center in Beltsville, MD

IS RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE:

1) OVERWEIGHT 2) NONSMOKING 3) NOT DIABETIC 4) AGE 25 - 65 YEARS

FOR NUTRITION RESEARCH

If you meet all the above criteria, you may be eligible for this study.

COMPENSATION UP TO \$750.00

This is a study to evaluate the effects of cocoa powder and tea on blood sugar metabolism. Dr. David Baer is the Principle Investigator.

 For information, call the USDA, at (301) 504-5454 or visit our web site www.barc.usda.gov/bhnrc and click on “Human Study Facility”

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Community Owned
Supermarket & Pharmacy"*

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Farm Fresh Produce

Vitamin Rich
U.S. Fancy
Broccoli
Crowns


99¢
lb.

Imported
Red-White
Seedless
Grapes

99¢
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Washington State
Red-Yellow
Delicious
Apples

99¢
lb.

*Please Pardon
Our Dust...*
As we install Bright New
Produce Refrigerated
Display Cases in our Fresh
Produce Department.
These New Produce Display
cases will greatly enhance the variety, quality,
and freshness throughout our Produce
Department. This work is slated to begin on
January 18th and to be completed in less than
one week. We will do our best to minimize the
mess & disruption for our valued customers
during this project.
Thanks for your patience & support.

Fresh Quality Meats			
Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Chuck Roast	\$2 ⁴⁹ lb.	Fresh Shurfine Value Pack Chicken Drumsticks- or-Thighs	69¢ lb.
Fresh Lean Beef Boneless New York Strip Steaks	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Shurfine Garlic Herb Seasoned Roasting Chicken	99¢ lb.
Ball Park Meat Franks 16 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Shurfine Italian Sausage Hot-Sweet	\$1 ⁴⁹ lb.
Meyers Natural Beef Boneless Sirloin Tip Steak	\$4 ⁹⁹ lb.	Mama Lucia Italian Meatballs 12 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

DAIRY

Florida's Natural
Premium
Orange
Juice
Assorted 59-64 oz.

\$2

Shurfine Fresh
Grade A White
Large
Eggs Dozen

89¢

DELI

Tender Juicy Whole
Rotisserie
Chicken

\$3⁹⁹
Each

FROZEN

Shurfine
Classic
Ice Cream
Assorted 64 oz.

\$1⁵⁰

Shurfine Family Size
Orange
Juice
16 oz.

\$1⁵⁰

Kraft
Natural
Chunk Cheese
Assorted 8 oz. Bar

\$2

Shurfine
Soft
Vegetable
Spread 48 oz.

\$1⁵⁰

Hatfield
Cooked
Ham

\$2⁹⁹
lb.

Stouffer's
French
Bread Pizza
Assorted 10-12 oz.

\$2⁵⁰

Hanover
Silver Line
Vegetables
Assorted 16 oz.

\$1⁵⁰

HEALTH & BEAUTY.

Western Family
Isopropyl
Alcohol
16 oz.

99¢

SEAFOOD

Seabest
Mahi
Mahi
Fillets 16 oz.

\$4⁴⁹

CO-OP Carver
Homestyle
Turkey
Breast

\$6⁹⁹
lb.

NATURAL & GOURMET

Lipton
Green
Teas
Assorted 20 Pk.

\$1⁹⁹

BAKERY

Fresh Instore Baked
Cuisine De France
French
Boule 12 oz.

\$2⁶⁹

Tampax
Tampons
Assorted 16-20 Pk.

\$2⁵⁰

Viking
Breaded
Flounder
Fillets 16 oz.

\$4⁹⁹

Patron
Appreciation
Discount
Day
Wednesday
January 25th
5% Discount To All
Customers On All Purchases
Except Stamps, Metro Fares.

Bella Famiglia
Sparkling
Mineral
Water 33.8 oz.

\$1²⁹

Fresh Instore Baked
Organic
Italian
Flat Bread 20 oz.

\$2⁹⁹

Progresso Traditional Soups Assorted 18-19 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Mueller's Spaghetti- Rotini- Elbow Macaroni 1 lb.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	GROCERY BARGAINS	Prego Spaghetti Sauce Assorted 25-26 oz.	Tide Extra Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent 200 oz.	\$8 ⁹⁹	Lipton Rice Sides Sidedishes Assorted 4-5 oz.	\$1
Contadina Tomato Sauce 8 oz.	25¢	Shurfine Solid White Tuna 6 oz.	\$1	Nabisco Oreo Cookies Assorted 9-18 oz.	\$2 ⁵⁰	Musselman Apple Sauce Assorted 23-24 oz.	\$1 ²⁵	Shurfine Canned Fruit Peaches-Pears-Cocktail 15 oz.	88¢

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POLICE BLOTTER

*Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.*

Robberies

January 6, 8:33 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a woman reported that she had cashed a check at the Chevy Chase Bank inside Giant. She was sitting on a bench in the mall, putting money into her wallet, when a man took the money from her hand and fled the area on foot. The suspect is described as a black male, 40 years of age, 5'11", 150 pounds with black hair, brown eyes and a light mustache, wearing a black jacket and black pants.

January 7, 9:31 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a cab driver reported that he picked up a fare in Landover Hills. The passenger, a man, was driven to the 9100 block of Edmonston Road. The man stated that he did not have all of the money to pay the fare and asked to be driven to the area of Giant Food to get more money. Once arriving at the parking lot, the man exited the cab, produced a handgun and announced a robbery but the cab driver refused to lower the driver's window. The man broke out the window then fled in another vehicle described as a gray Nissan Maxima. The suspect is described as a black male with brown hair in braids and brown eyes, wearing a black T-shirt, a gray jacket and blue jeans.

January 8, 10:59 a.m., 5510 Cherrywood Lane, the victims reported that a man entered the Lovely Hair Braiding shop and walked up to one victim who was speaking on a phone. The man threw the phone to the ground, announced a robbery pulling his jacket back to reveal two handguns in holsters and ordered one of the victims to the ground. He took purses and jewelry from three persons and fled the scene in a vehicle described as a dark colored 4-door sedan, possibly a Honda or a Nissan Altima with light window tinting. The suspect is described as a black male, 25 to 30 years of age with a medium build, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black jacket, black hat, brown shirt, gloves and Timberland boots. A possible second suspect seen talking to the suspect in the parking lot prior to the robbery is described as a black male 25 to 30 years of age, 6' with a medium build and a dark complexion, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black suit with a gold tie.

January 11, 5:18 a.m., 8100 block Mandan Terrace, a man reported that he was walking to work when he was approached by one of two men, who produced a handgun and demanded money. The second man stood nearby during the incident. After getting money from the victim, both suspects fled the area on foot toward Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School. There is no definitive description of the suspects.

January 12, 10:42 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a man reported that he was walking to a residence when he was approached by another man, who knocked him to the ground. The suspect took the man's cell phone and the man ran from the scene and called police. The suspect is described as a black male, 5'8" to 5'10", 150 to 160 pounds, wearing a navy blue parka and a black ski mask.

January 12, 10:50 p.m., 6100

block Breezewood Drive, a man stated that he was entering an apartment building when he was followed inside by another man, who produced a knife and announced a robbery. After obtaining money the suspect fled the area toward Breezewood Court. The suspect is described as a black male, 6', wearing camouflage clothing and a ski mask.

January 13, 5:29 a.m., 9200 block Springhill Lane, a man reported that he was walking to a friend's apartment. When he entered the apartment building he was approached by two other men, who both had their hands under their shirts as if they had weapons. A robbery was announced and, after taking the man's cell phone and car keys, the suspects ordered the man into the building's laundry room. They then fled the area. The suspects are described as two black males, both 18 to 20 years of age, one was 5'6" to 5'8", 180 to 200 pounds with black hair and a dark complexion, wearing dark clothing. The second was 5'8" to 6', 170 to 180 pounds with black hair, a medium complexion and some facial hair, wearing brown clothing.

Road Rage

January 7, 2:48 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Drive, a man reported that he was driving in the 6200 block of Breezewood Drive when another vehicle began following closely behind, sounding its horn. The vehicle followed the man to a nearby parking lot, at which time a passenger inside the other vehicle began shouting profanities. He attempted to enter the man's vehicle and then kicked the vehicle, breaking one of the tail light assemblies. The passenger then got back into the other vehicle which left the scene. The suspects are described as a black male, 6'3" 250 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes and a black female, 31, 5'9", 180 pounds with black hair and brown eyes. Their vehicle was located a short time later unoccupied in the 9000 block of Breezewood Terrace and was impounded. Investigation is continuing.

Assault

January 9, in reference to an assault reported December 12 at Greenbelt Middle School; a resident youth has been petitioned for second degree assault.

Counterfeit Money

January 10, 3:29 p.m., Greenway Center, a man entered For Eyes Optical and asked the sales clerk for change for a \$100 bill. After the man left the store the clerk discovered that the bill was counterfeit. The suspect is described as a black male, 25 to 30 years of age, 6' to 6'1", 190 to 200 pounds with black hair, brown eyes and a goatee, wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans.

Flim Flam

January 10, 7:06 p.m., Greenway Center, a woman reported that she was in the parking lot when she was approached by a second woman. She was holding a wallet and asked the woman if it was hers. The woman stated no, at which time a third woman grabbed the wallet and opened it. Inside was what appeared to be a large amount of money and some sort of bonds. The women told the victim that if she would withdraw money from her bank as a show of

good faith she could take part of the proceeds of the found money. The victim then went to her bank, took out a large sum of money and gave it to the two women, who told her to wait inside Safeway until a man arrived to give her more money. The women then left the scene with the victim's money. The suspects are described as a black female, 40 to 49 years of age, 5'8", 200 pounds with a dark complexion and bad teeth, wearing a black curly wig, black leather coat, beige shirt and black boots and a black female, 40 to 49 years of age, 5'9", 200 pounds, wearing a black hat, a gray jacket and skirt.

Vandalism

January 12, 9:18 a.m., 6700 block Lake Park Drive, it was reported that unknown person(s) vandalized a construction trailer.

Burglaries

January 9, 6:31 a.m., 7600 Ora Glen Drive, a commercial burglary was reported.

January 9, 7:30 a.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into several temporary classrooms. A laptop computer, LCD projector, a refrigerator and two microwave ovens were taken.

January 10, 4:07 p.m., 2 court Southway, it was reported that unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a new addition to a home being renovated. Nothing appears to have been taken.

Vehicle Crimes

Two vehicles were reported stolen: a gold 2001 Dodge Intrepid 4-door, Maryland tags LAN334 from the 9300 block Edmonston Road; and a green 1995 Ford Escort 4-door, Maryland tags MHD582 from the 7600 block Hanover Parkway.

One stolen vehicle was recovered by the Prince George's County Police with no arrests.

On January 8, the vehicle taken during a robbery December 31 in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, a 1990 Honda Accord 2-door, was recovered by the Metropolitan Police with no arrests made.

On January 6 near 18 court Crescent Road, three vehicles were vandalized. Two possible suspects who were observed at approximately 10:04 p.m. are described as a black male, 15 years of age, 5'10" with a heavy build and closed cropped hair, wearing all black clothing and a black male, 15 years of age, 5'7" with a thin build, wearing all black clothing.

On January 8 on Crescent Road between Southway and the entrance to the library, nine vehicles had their tires slashed. On January 12 in the 2 to 5 courts of Gardenway, eight vehicles were vandalized.

Other vandalism, theft and attempted theft involving vehicles were reported in the following areas: 8000 block Mandan Road, 6900 block Hanover Parkway, 7200 block Hanover Drive, 7700 block Cloister Place, 7800 block Jacobs Drive, 16 court Crescent Road, 16 court Ridge Road, 2 court Gardenway, Roosevelt Center, 6100 block Breezewood Court, 6100 block Breezewood Drive and 6200 block Springhill Drive.

Maryland Changes Tax Laws for 2006

Maryland Comptroller William Donald Schaefer has announced key changes to this year's tax code, some of which are designed to help low-income families, taxpayers 65 and older, as well as households with child- or dependent-care costs. In addition based on estimates by the comptroller's Revenue Administration Division, nearly 1.3 million taxpayers are expected to e-file in the 2006 tax season, an increase of 14 percent over last year.

"As a whole the state's economy is good now. But it's important to think about the people who aren't doing as well, particularly Marylanders with lower-paying jobs and taxpayers with fixed incomes," said Comptroller Schaefer. "I hope this year's tax changes will ease the burden of rising healthcare and prescription costs, gas prices and help out the working poor." Major changes include: Earned Income Credit (EIC) – in 2006, more Marylanders can qualify for the state's refundable earned income tax credit based on expanded household income levels. More than 200,000 Maryland tax returns filed last year included claims for \$82.3 million in refundable earned income tax credits.

Pension Exclusion – for Marylanders 65 and older, the state's maximum pension exclusion has increased from \$20,700 to \$21,500. The exclusion may also be applied for taxpayers who are totally disabled or if the taxpayer's spouse is totally disabled.

Child Care Credit – the federal adjusted gross income ceiling for taxpayers who qualify for the state's child or dependent care tax credit has increased to \$50,000, up 25 percent over last year. The ceiling for qualifying taxpayers filing individual returns has also increased by 25 percent and is now \$25,000. Taxpayers using child or dependent care may also qualify for a subtraction benefit which reduces

a filer's taxable income.

Increased Filing Extension – taxpayers can now save time and paperwork by requesting one six-month filing extension. Prior to the change, taxpayers first needed to obtain a four-month extension before receiving an additional two months. Any taxes owed must still be paid by this year's April 17, 2006 filing due date.

Partial Direct Debit for E-filers – electronic filers who file early and choose direct debit can now make partial payments and choose their own date to pay for any taxes owed, up to the April 17, 2006 filing deadline.

Additional Exemption for Hurricane Katrina Host Families – Maryland taxpayers who sheltered displaced victims of Hurricane Katrina may be eligible for a one-time, \$2,400 exemption for each additional dependent in the household, with a maximum of four exemptions. The exemption is doubled for dependents ages 65 or older or blind.

E-file – more than 1.1 million Marylanders filed electronically in the 2005 tax season, an increase of 15.1 percent over 2004. For the 2006 tax season it's estimated that 14 percent more taxpayers will file online, either from home or through a tax professional.

Telefile – the IRS has discontinued its joint federal/state Telefile service for the 2006 tax season. As a result the comptroller's office will mail out 31,000 resident tax booklets in 2006 to those Maryland taxpayers who used the phone service last year. In all, 60,000 additional resident income tax booklets will be mailed this year, a 20 percent increase over last year. The discontinuation of Telefile coupled with the increased mailings will still save the state \$55,000.

For more information about Maryland taxes visit the comptroller's website at www.marylandtaxes.com.

Navy Log Seeks Those in Sea Services

The United States Navy Memorial located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. is a national memorial that honors those who served and are serving in America's Sea Services – Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.

The focus of the U.S. Navy Memorial is not a particular type of ship, battle or conflict, but rather the individual whose service and sacrifice is honored and celebrated. The heart of the U.S. Navy Memorial is the Navy Log.

The Navy Log is the permanent public registry where Sea Service members and veterans can record their service informa-

tion – name, duty stations, awards, photos and memories. Now through the end of July all members and veterans of the Sea Services – active duty and reservists – are able to enroll in the U.S. Navy Memorial's Navy Log without charge and without any obligation. Family members and friends can record service information for veterans who are deceased or those who are unable to record their own information.

To enroll or to enroll family members visit www.lonesailor.org. For questions contact the Navy Log at 1-800-NAVYLOG (1-800-628-9564).

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A Review

“Cabaret” Dazzles; Desserts Are Sumptuous

by Anne Gardner

For the month of January, the Greenbelt Arts Center has been transformed into the sleazy Kit Kat Club, the hottest nightspot in Berlin. Audience members coming to performances of the musical “Cabaret,” directed by Gretchen Jacobs, are led to their tables by the Kit Kat girls and presented with a menu of mouthwatering desserts to be delivered at the intermission.

The year is 1929 and, while the exuberant emcee (Juan Rodriguez) urges you to leave your troubles outside the door, plenty of troubles are to be found within. You follow the fortunes of struggling American writer Clifford Bradshaw (Paul Cady), British nightclub singer Sally Bowles (Kelly Potchak), landlady Fraulein Schneider (Heidi Toll) and fellow lodgers



Juan Rodriguez as the Emcee and Kristi Bledsoe as Texas.

Herr Schulz (Sandy Irving) and Fraulein Fritzi Kost (Renee Rabben) as they try to come to terms with the impending Nazism. There are moments when the

singing is a little shaky but this is more than made up for by the dazzling performances of Rodriguez and Potchak. Strong supporting roles are also played by Toll and Rabben.

Don’t expect happy endings in this provocative musical but come to the cabaret and you will be treated to rousing songs, ably backed up by an eight-piece band led by musical director Joe Biddle and excellent performances by all, not to mention delicious desserts (I can recommend the Chocolate Oblivion Cake).

“Cabaret” runs through the end of January, 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and 2 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information contact GAC at 301-441-8770 or visit www.greenbeltartscenter.org.



Kelly Potchak as Sally Bowles.

City Notes

Planning and Community Development’s code enforcement department animal control staff removed an opossum from trash four times this week, has two dogs and five cats for adoption and one cat was surrendered by its owner. A city inspector recovered names from rubbish dumped into recycle bins at Hanover Drive and forwarded violation notices to the resident.

Public Works’ horticulture crew planted 500 perennial seeds gathered last week in the greenhouse to germinate over the winter.

The Community Center’s outside flag pole rope broke early in the week. A new rope and clips were purchased but are not yet installed because the ground was too wet for the bucket truck to be driven on the grass. Installation will take place next week, weather permitting.

Beltsville Garden Club Meets Wed.

The Beltsville Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail in Beltsville. The speaker will be Christopher Erb of Bartlett Tree Co. whose topic will be “Ten Ways to Avoid Killing Your Trees.” He will also discuss the use of repellants to protect trees from browsing deer.

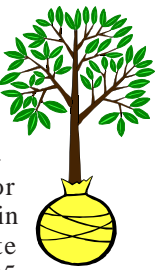
There will be plants for the door prize table and refreshments after the meeting. The public is welcome and admission is free. For information call Louise DeJames at 301-890-4733 or visit www.beltsvillegardenclub.org.

Kenilworth Median Project Planned

The City of Greenbelt has received design plans for the county’s Livable Communities Initiative Project for the median strip in the area of Route 201 and the I-495 interchange. The project is called the Kenilworth Avenue at I-495 Environmental Restoration, Low Impact Development and Urban Retrofit Demonstration Project and is scheduled for construction in spring 2006.

Project goals and objectives include but are not limited to: meeting the Livable Communities Initiative; improving the visual appearance of and providing a “sense of arrival” for county corridors; incorporating low impact practices to improve water quality of roadway runoff and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay; and providing signs and landscape elements.

The county has support from and is partnering with the State Highway Administration to perform this project.



CARES

Wendy Wexler has begun a second eight-week long Teen Discussion Group at Eleanor Roosevelt High School Guidance Office. The 10 participating students are from grades 9 through 12. A wide variety of topics will be discussed including school achievement, communication skills, family interactions and anger management.

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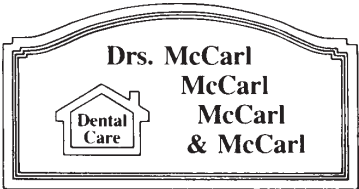


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BARC to Remain As Research Center

A request made by Mayor Judith Davis to have the 6,500-acre Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) designated as a wildlife refuge has been turned down by Phyllis E. Johnson, director of BARC.

In a January 10 letter to Davis, Johnson stated that “designation as a wildlife refuge would distract attention from BARC’s primary mission to do research on agriculture and in some cases could conflict with that mission. The Patuxent Wildlife Refuge was created from land ceded from BARC to the Department of the Interior in 1976 and 1980 so that they could pursue a mission independent from ours. We do collaborate with Patuxent on a number of research projects as well as administrative needs.

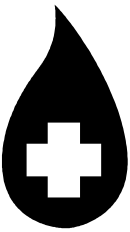
“BARC is already protected from development pressure by a U.S. statute, PL 100-202, enacted in 1987, that prohibits USDA from selling, leasing, excessing or otherwise disposing of BARC property without the express permission of Congress. We do not believe that designation as a wildlife refuge would provide protection of BARC land beyond that provided by the existing statute.”

Ice Rink Is Site For Blood Drive

On Sunday, January 22 the Herbert Wells Ice Rink will be the site for a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The ice rink, a Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission parks and recreation facility, is responding to the urgent need for blood and will provide two free skating passes for each donor.

To donate, people must be in good health, 17 years of age or older and weigh at least 110 pounds. People who have allergies and diabetes can donate. People cannot donate if they have received a tattoo within the past year. In addition those who have high blood pressure, are on antibiotics for infections or who have a sore throat, flu or a cold cannot donate.

Call 301-277-3717 to schedule an appointment. Drop-ins will also be accepted.



Free Drop-in Arts for Kids

On Sunday, January 22 at 2 p.m. the College Park Arts Exchange will offer a free afternoon arts drop-in program for children ages 3 through 8. Children, led by arts instructor Aaron Springer, will create a winter wonderland diorama using sticks, glue, glitter, cotton balls and other items. This is an imaginative, creative free-form arts afternoon that children and parents will enjoy.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. The program will be held at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road in College Park. Call 301-927-3013 or email info@cpae.org with any questions.


Open Dance Class

On Wednesday, January 25 at 2 p.m. the University of Maryland Department of Dance presents a master class with the Joe Goode Performance Group. This free event takes place in the Dance Theatre of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

Grief Support Group

Grief Care is a free support group for those experiencing loss through death, divorce or other traumatic life events. The support group will meet for six weeks beginning on Tuesday, February 7 at 7 p.m. at Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park. Call 301-891-5265 to register.

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Refinished oak hardwood flooring on both levels. Front porch addition with sliding glass doors. Across from park & play area. \$174,900 U.C.

U.C.= Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers



The Chesapeake Bay “A System in Crisis”

by Maggie Cahalan

Almost 16 million people, including all of us who live in Greenbelt, share the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Greenbelt streams, Indian Creek, Little Paint Branch and Beaver Dam Creek flow into the Anacostia River and from there into the Bay. In December the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) issued the “2005 Annual State of the Bay Report.” The results of the annual study revealed that the Bay health index remained unchanged for the third consecutive year. Experts established the health index as 100 percent healthy at the time of Colonial settlement. Over time the health of the Bay has declined to the point that it is now only 27 percent as healthy as when seen by early settlers.

In the CBF annual report the Bay was described as “dangerously out of balance” and a “system in crisis.” The summary states “The Chesapeake and its rivers and streams are dying Modest gains were recorded in several key areas but the Bay remained firmly in place on the EPA’s notorious ‘dirty waters’ list.”

Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia share the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and are committed to a “science-based plan” to restore the Bay by 2010. Specific recovery strategies for each of the 36 major basins have been developed.

Major threats to the Bay and rivers have been identified by scientists as coming from excess nutrients, sediments, toxic chemicals, habitat loss and over-fishing. Virtually all of us living in the watershed contribute the excess nutrients and toxins that ultimately reach the Bay. On a per acre basis, cities contribute to the Bay about twice the negative nutrient load as agriculture. Storm water runoff becomes contaminated as it flows across the land, picking up pollutants and chemical contaminants from roadways, yards, golf courses, parking lots and other lands. Polluted storm water runoff travels down through storm drains into local waterways and ultimately ends up in the Bay. Hence to restore the Bay we have to be concerned about what we do in our own communities, homes and backyards.

How to Help

Several ways individuals and communities can assist in achieving the goals of Bay restoration follow.

Practice conservation landscaping and limit or eliminate chemical fertilizer and pesticide use. “BayScope” your yard with hints from www.alliancechesbay.org or the US Fish and Wildlife Service BayScapes Hotline, 410-573-4578.

Control runoff and soil erosion in your yard to help reduce the amount of sediments, nutrients and contaminants entering the watershed. Avoid solid surfaces

such as asphalt but use porous surfaces such as pavers that allow water to filter into the soil. Redirect downspouts to gardens or rain retention barrels. Plant trees – trees control and filter runoff and reduce soil erosion.

Start a compost pile and recycle yard waste. This will minimize the amount of collected trash and the compost can also serve as a natural fertilizer for the lawn and garden.

Conserve water and energy. The more water we use, the more we must treat with chemicals at water treatment plants. Repair leaking faucets, install low-flow faucets and toilets and wash only full loads of laundry.

Drive fewer miles each week. Reducing the amount of miles driven means fewer polluting emissions. Use public transportation, carpool, bike, walk or telecommute.

Support local businesses and services. Greenbelt is a pedestrian-friendly community that encourages walking to schools, community services and shops.

Support sustainable agriculture and fishing practices and community-supported agriculture. Eat lower on the food chain. Buy locally-raised food wherever possible. Buy organic foods and reduce red meat, poultry, threatened fish and dairy consumption. For more information visit the web at www.futureharvestcasa.org or other sites listed below.

Get involved in community-based watershed cleanup, restoration and management. At least two groups exist in Greenbelt – the Committee to Save Indian Creek and the Beaver Dam Creek Watershed Committee. The City of Greenbelt’s Recycling and Environment Committee organizes periodic outings for lake and stream cleanup and planting. Participate in local Earth Day activities.

Reduce, recycle and reuse. Avoid buying products and packages that cannot be recycled. Buy bulk items to minimize packaging. Use and reuse cloth or string bags for purchases. Plastic bottles and bags and other such items are a serious source of pollution and threat to wildlife in the Bay.

Hold public officials accountable for achieving Bay restoration goals and work to establish sound land use. Get involved in state and local decisions to promote environmentally sound sewage treatment, electricity generation and sensitive land development.

If we all commit to protecting our environment, it will make a difference and we may live to see our treasured watershed run clear.

For additional information on matters of the health and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, see the following web sites: www.chesapeakebay.net or www.cbf.org.

Maggie Cahalan is a member of the city’s Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee.

City Information

Coming Changes for Greenbelt West

by Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager

As readers of this newspaper are aware, three proposals have been presented to the City of Greenbelt that, if approved, would completely change the area of the City that lies west of Kenilworth Avenue and south of the Capital Beltway to Greenbelt Road. This area has come to be referred to as Greenbelt West. While two of the proposals have been publicly discussed and covered in this paper and others for a number of years, recently there has been renewed interest in the specifics of the proposals. Below is the first of a series of articles prepared by the City of Greenbelt in an effort to ensure that key details of the proposals are available for public consideration. This first article will deal with the history of the proposals to this point.

In 1996, the owners of the A.H. Smith sand and gravel operation on Branchville Road, just outside the City of Greenbelt to the west, unveiled plans to redevelop its property and, at the same time, make the area to the north, which is directly adjacent to the Greenbelt Metro station and is within the city’s corporate limits, into a mixed-use transit-oriented development center, commonly referred to as Greenbelt Station.

This was the first of three visions that, if approved, will remake the face of Greenbelt West into a model of new urbanist mixed-use transit-oriented communities. Other parties that have submitted plans include the owners of the Springhill Lake apartment complex (Apartment Investment and Management Company or AIMCO) and the owners of Beltway Plaza. In another way of putting it, these plans will significantly change one-third of the city.

Since the initial introduction of the plans for Greenbelt Station were unveiled in 1996, the City Council, the community and city staff have spent hundreds of hours to ensure that whatever is ultimately approved in that area is to the community’s liking and appropriate for the area. When necessary, these efforts included legal challenges of initial approvals of the Greenbelt Station project by the Prince George’s County Planning Board and the Prince George’s County Council. The City’s challenge was that approvals had been granted that were not consistent with County regulations. While losing at the Circuit Court and Court of Appeals levels, the City ultimately prevailed at the Court of Special Appeals. As a result of these efforts, the plans currently under consideration for the Greenbelt Station area are of a lower density and a greater mix of uses than reflected in the earlier plans.

Then, almost five years ago, AIMCO brought forth a proposal to rebuild the Springhill Lake community. Springhill Lake is an apartment complex of almost 2,900 units. From the time it was built in the 1960s

until now, it is commonly referred to as the largest garden apartment complex east of the Mississippi River. However, the community is now over 40 years old and in need of a significant renovation, similar to the rehabilitation that Greenbelt Homes, Inc., undertook in the late 1970s.

From the earliest discussions with AIMCO, the council raised the possibility of completely rebuilding Springhill Lake. While this was not AIMCO’s original intent, it soon became the preferred option. As plans currently stand, AIMCO estimates that to rebuild Springhill Lake will require an investment of around \$750 million dollars. The vision that AIMCO has laid out is to transform a predominantly garden apartment rental community into a community with a variety of housing options, including as much as 35 percent of for-sale units and rental opportunities ranging from work-at-home options to two-story loft options to mid-rise apartment living. The plans also include a commercial area in the center of the development, similar to Roosevelt Center in the historic portion of Greenbelt, to serve the daily needs of the residents.

Finally, Beltway Plaza, in the last year, has brought forth a plan to redo its regional shopping center. Early plans call for the main entrance road, located between the Silver Diner and Boston Market on Greenbelt Road, to be extended all the way through to Breezewood Drive. This would create more of a main street type shopping environment. It would enable additional storefront retail to be added and some of the areas behind the existing Beltway Plaza mall could be made available for additional residential use.

As all these plans have developed, it is clear that the opportunity is emerging for the redevelopment of Greenbelt West into a model of a well-designed, compact, transit-related, community-oriented project that epitomizes the objectives of Smart Growth and new urbanist design ideals. These projects have captured the interest of internationally recognized planners and architects who have influenced the very designs now being reviewed by the City Council.

Understandably, there are con-

cerns about these plans. These plans call for much denser development than what currently exists. For example, AIMCO is proposing to double the density of Springhill Lake. However, in a region suffering from overwhelming traffic congestion, where people are looking for solutions to enable people to more easily move through the region without needing vehicles for every trip, focusing density within walking distance or a short bus or bike ride to a mass transit facility like the Greenbelt Metro Station makes enormous sense and is the model for transit-oriented development.

Proposals of this magnitude are very complex. As a result, there is typically a need for public agencies to be involved to ensure that community interests are represented. Coordination of efforts from federal, state, county and city governments are vital to the thorough consideration of plans, such as Greenbelt Station and Springhill Lake, which is why the City has been involved.

There is much more information about these projects than can be explained in a few paragraphs. Residents are encouraged to contact the Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development to discuss any questions, concerns or suggestions about the plans. Depending on the volume of questions, the questions may be used as the outline for future articles or may be responded to on an individual basis. The Planning Department can be contacted at 301-345-5417 or by email at pcd@greenbeltmd.gov.

Again, this article and subsequent articles are being published by the City of Greenbelt in an effort to make sure that Greenbelt citizens are aware of what is being proposed in Greenbelt West and the involvement of the city in those various plans. Decisions will need to be made at various stages of the consideration of these plans in the near future and over the next six to twelve months. This series of articles is intended to ensure that Greenbelt residents have the information necessary to advise the Council and identify any questions they may want answered.

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